



MESSAGE 1:

**Celebrating yesterday and
stretching forth to what lies ahead**

Celebrating all that SCF has achieved ~ our current path

- Thriving, growing church that owns and meets in a God-provided building in a superb location.
- A wide range of services to the local community that has touched many lives and has sown many seeds of love.
- A servant hearted leadership, who are godly, prophetic, talented, teachable, meek, wise, loving and accessible.
- A congregation of disciples who are gifted, committed, encouraging, giving, growing.
- Financial blessing that is wisely stewarded by a team of faithful administrators.
- The presence of the King displayed as we worship and meet to express His kingdom rule.



The prophetic pointers from the 'Two Paths' picture

UNKNOWN

- Destination to be discerned
- Lord's voice only can be heard
- Old visions/dreams are replaced with the 'one thing'
- Full of faith but aware of a total need of Christ's strength; little trust in their own abilities.
- Leadership is more about sacrificially releasing people
- People's self-confidence is replaced by a position of being on their faces – totally dependent upon God.
- A new breed of kingdom, missional church emerges



**Which path shall
we take?**

KNOWN

- Clear destination
- Many voices from wise people can be heard
- Clear goals and vision
- Much success based on faith and well organised action
- Courageous, confident, charismatic leaders
- Many talented people busy working hard to serve the Lord with helpful programmes
- An attractional church runs like a well oiled machine

Transitioning from the Good to the Best

“When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, *“They have no wine.”* ... His mother said to the servants, *“Do whatever he tells you.”* Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, *“Fill the jars with water.”* And they filled them up to the brim. And he said to them, *“Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.”* So they took it. When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from, ... the master of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, *“Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.”* JOHN 2:1-10

GOOD
BETTER
BEST

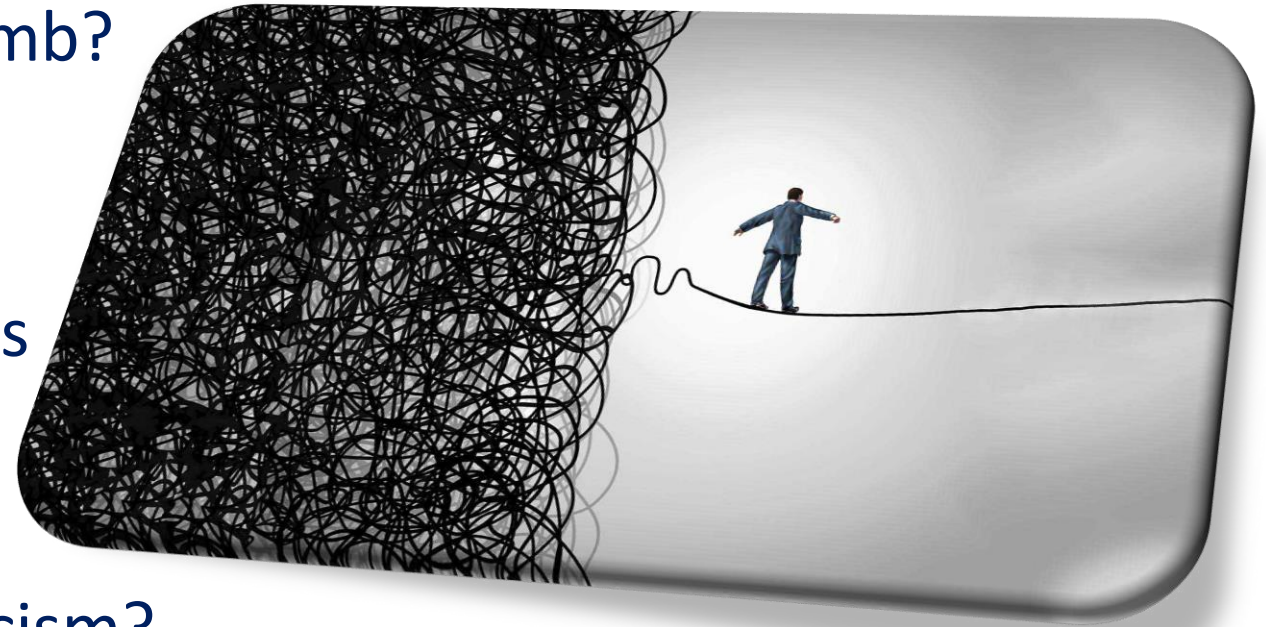
Pressing on toward the goal



“I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death ... Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” PHILIPPIANS 3:10-14

What might the Lord be asking us to leave behind?

- Past or current sins and failings and feelings of inadequacies?
- Inner wounds, offences, un-forgiveness and insecurities?
- Fears of change and being out on a limb?
- Educational prowess/superiority or sense of educational lack/inferiority?
- Well worn ministry routines/ practices that have become stale?
- Old creation identities?
- Independent spirit, prides and scepticism?
- Opinions; rights; contentions; doctrinal stumbling blocks - a rules based Christianity?



Possible glimpse of the 'new era'

1. A people who are more Biblically streamlined, totally dependent on the Lord and one another, focusing on their 'one thing'.
2. Fresh fire and confidence to reach out and touch hearts with His transforming grace.
3. A people healed, secure, meek and attractive - reversing the 20:80 syndrome.
4. Become a place known for its extraordinary love, healing power and 'presence'.
5. Become a church for all people and a beacon of practical hope and love in action.

